

31: Hofmann--603

N-3

(1909) 1912

Formosans

116, 366, 543, 657, 177.65

Japanese

636.65

During my stay of one week in the capital and the neighboring regions, I was greatly impressed by the energy with which the Japanese had stimulated the culture of Taihoku. There were extensive government buildings, broad streets, water pipes, schools, barracks, hospitals, reformatories, railroads, telegraph and telephone connections; everything, in short, that is considered representative of western culture. Everywhere there are signs of Japanese patience, energy, and initiative which form a striking contrast to the confusion and negligence of the Chinese regime. There is a museum in Taihoku which is well worth seeing, with an extensive collection of the abundant fauna and flora of this island; it is because of the copious vegetation that Formosa for so many centuries has been the cynosure of all those nations who sought to expand their boundaries. There is also a botanical garden where a large number of useful and interesting plants has been systematically arranged and it is calculated to impress any visitor to the tropics. There is one hotel in Taihoku which, judged even by European standards, is excellent; it offers all the comforts of a tropical hotel.